GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:476
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Use of Aluminium Foil in Food Packaging
Sigriwal Shri Janardan Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that aluminium foil is used extensively for protection, packing and storage of food and beverages etc., if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has laid down any guidelines for the manufacturing of aluminium foils for wrapping food and beverage items, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of aluminium foil samples collected by the Government for checking and found not fit for use along with the action taken against the manufacturers during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to educate consumers about the ill effects of using poor quality aluminium foils?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b): Aluminium foil is commonly used for packing and storage of food. There are no specifications for manufacture of Aluminium Foil as per the Food Safety and Standards Act, and Regulations thereunder. However, Bureau of Indian Standards BIS IS 15392 (2003) provides for specifications for Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy foil for food packaging which are not under mandatory certification.
(c): Enforcement of the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, Rules and Regulations thereunder, is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. Since there are no mandatory standards for Aluminium Foil, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has no information/data about collection of samples of Aluminium Foil by the State/UT Authorities .
(d): FSSAI is committed to creating awareness among the general public about safety of food products. For this purpose, it makes use of numerous platforms like it's website, Twitter, Facebook page, Youtube, etc. FSSAI has also joined awareness campaigns under "Jago Grahak Jago" with the Department of Consumer Affairs in respect of food items. However, no separate campaign has been launched concerning aluminium foils.

******